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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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***ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD CALLED TO EMERGENCY ACTIVE DUTY  
855<sup>th</sup> MP Company will assist in Hurricane Katrina aftermath***

PHOENIX – The Arizona National Guard is mobilizing the 855<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company for emergency active duty to assist with security efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The unit will deploy equipment and personnel to Louisiana on Sunday.

“This is a national tragedy of epic proportions and Arizona stands ready to do all it can to assist those devastated by Hurricane Katrina,” said Governor Janet Napolitano.

Approximately 116 guardsmen and women will depart to the region from the Sunnyslope Armory Sunday at 7 a.m. by commercial bus. Governor Napolitano has offered National Guard assistance to all states affected by the natural disaster, and this morning, the National Guard Bureau asked Arizona for military police assistance.

The 855<sup>th</sup> MP Company, based in Sunnyslope and Yuma, assisted in the Rodeo-Chediski firefighting efforts, protected the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and provided security at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah. They were the first Arizona Army National Guard unit to return from Iraq after 18 months of deployment.

Governor Napolitano continues to offer Arizona resources for assistance in the rescue and recovery efforts. The Department of Public Safety has offered helicopters and law enforcement equipment, the Department of Health Services has public health teams ready for dispatch, and the Arizona Division of Emergency Management is tracking and coordinating assistance needed from state agencies.